MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Youssef, Lamiaa (English & For. Lang., FS President); Haines, Ashley (Biology, FS Vice President); Fernando, Anne (Math, FS Secretary); Thomas, Kathleen (Health, Phys. Ed., & Ex. Sci., FS Assistant Secretary); Kamiru, John (Accounting, Finance, and Information Systems, FS Treasurer); Abrefa-Gyan, Tina (Social Work); Chuang, Shao-Hui (Technology); D’Silva, Joseph (Biology); Holmes, Maria (Nursing); Hu, Yen-Hung (Computer Science) (Hoppa, Mary Ann alternate); Mohanty, Bidhu (Marketing and Entrepreneurship); Khan, Mushtaq (Math); Mead, Patricia (Engineering); Meshesha, Aberra (Political Science); Sawyer, Jason (Social Work); Blakely, Curtis (Secondary Ed.); Jackson, Kevin (Allied Health); Wilkens, Gary (English & For. Lang.); Goodloe, Angela (Secondary Ed.); Isekeije, Solomon (Visual & Performing Arts); Thomas, Ronald (Psychology, FS Parliamentarian)

Members Absent: Harper, Natisha (Library) replacement pending; Jackson, Cathy (Mass Com.) replacement pending; Temple, Doyle (Physics) replacement pending; de Laforcade, Geoffroy (History & Interdisc. St.) excused; Boone, Jacqueline (Early Childhood/Element. Ed.); Nweke, Anthony (Chemistry); Curiel, James (Sociology); Cooley-Doles, Joy (Psychology)

Guests: Zapatero, Enrique (Provost’s Office); Johnson, Mamie (English & For. Lang); Darden-Woodey, Beatrice (Health, Phys. Ed., & Ex. Sci., FS Assistant Secretary); Dr. Rasha Morsi (Computer Science); Black, Suely (Chemistry)

I. Call to order: Meeting was called to order at 12:34 p.m.

II. Dr. Meshsha makes a motion to approve minutes of the FS meeting on September 18th and Dr. Haines seconds motion. Vote: 12 Yes, 0 No, and 1 Abstain. Motion passes. Minutes approved with the following changes: Dr. Mohanty is in Marketing and Entrepreneurship; Dr. Kamiru is in Accounting, Finance, and Information Systems; and Dr. Thomas’s last name is to be corrected from Brown to Thomas.

III. Old Business:

A. Dr. Youssef discussed the need to comply with the FS Constitution and Bylaws in terms of attendance at FS meetings or sending an alternate. Those who have been consistently absent will receive an email from Dr. Fernando to either attend or, if unavailable, to have the department elect another senator who will be able to attend.

B. Motion to approve FS standing member committee list: Dr. Haines first, Dr. Kathleen Thomas second. Discussion on how these committees were composed. Dr. Youssef explained that the sign-up sheet for volunteers was distributed to all Faculty Senate members via email prior to the FS meeting on September 18, 2018. It was also circulated among all attendees during the FS meeting on September 18. Dr. Youssef also contacted faculty members at large who had expressed interest in serving on a University-wide committee but did not get a chance. The names of the faculty members who replied with their committee preferences were added to the membership list. The FS Executive Committee met on October 4, in lieu of October 9 that coincided with Fall Break, and voted to approve and nominate to the FS the names of the chairs and faculty who signed up for these committees. Vote: 15 Yes, 0 No, and 1 abstain. Motion passes.
IV. New Business:

A. Faculty senate goals: Dr. Youssef make a motion to restore item #2 to its original wording: “Fostering professional and safe work environment free from intimidation and retaliation” and Dr. D’Silva seconds. Discussion follows on the topics of grievances, intimidation, and retaliation. Vote: 9 Yes, 2 No, and 3 Abstain. Motion passes.

B. Reports from department representatives: Bring items you hear from your department to the FS meeting.

C. Update on the budget: Dr. Kaniru will get details from Finance Administration for the next FS meeting.

D. Faculty grievance committee is a FS standing committee. For the Status, Welfare, and Grievance Advisory Committee, there was a discussion that we need to remove the word “grievance advisory” from that committee to avoid confusing faculty about the Faculty Grievance Committee which is a separate FS standing committee. Faculty can still get advice on the grievance procedures, so we are not removing the function, just the name. Dr. Haines makes motion to remove the words “grievance advisory” and Dr. D’Silva seconds. Vote: 11 Yes, 0 No, and 3 abstain. Motion passes to restore the name of the Faculty Status and Welfare Advisory Committee.

E. There was a discussion on the confusion that sometimes results from University early closures with little or no notice. While students are on their phones and faculty are conducting classes, students can get the message before their professors, which may result in potential class disruption and conflict. Therefore, we need to have clear policies on students cell phone use in the classroom, campus alerts to faculty, and early dismissal protocols in non-emergency situations. Dr. Zapatero suggested Livesafe app. as an additional security measure.

F. Motion to adjourn by Dr. Thomas, second by Dr. Mohanty. Motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings:

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meetings: Nov. 13, Jan. 8, Feb. 11, March 12, and April 9, 2019, STC 309 12:30pm-1:30pm

Faculty Senate Meetings: Nov. 20, Jan. 15, Feb. 18, March 19, and April 16, 2019, NGE Room 205, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.